United Nations E/2011/2

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
22 December 2010

Original: English

Organizational session for 2011
18 January, 15-18 February and 27 and 28 April 2011
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments.

Annotations

1. Election of the Bureau

Rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council provides that, each year at the commencement of its first meeting, the Council shall elect a President and four Vice-Presidents from among the representatives of its members. The membership of the Council in 2011 is given in the annex below. According to the equitable geographical rotation of the office of the President among the regional groups, the President for 2011 should be the representative of a member of the African States group. The four Vice-Presidents of the Council shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution from the regional groups, excluding that to which the President belongs.

The President and Vice-Presidents shall constitute the Bureau. The Council, upon the recommendation of the President, shall decide on the special responsibilities of each of the Vice-Presidents.

Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77, a meeting of the Council will be held on 18 January 2011 for the election of the Bureau.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Council provides that, at the beginning of each session, after the election of the Bureau when required under rule 18, the Council shall adopt the agenda for the session.

Please recycle

The present provisional agenda has been prepared in conformity with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/162 and of other relevant legislative decisions, including, in particular, the provisions of Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 61/16.

3. Basic programme of work of the Council

In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure of the Council, the Council shall draw up, at its organizational session, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, its basic programme of work for the year.

Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Council, the President, prior to the organizational session, and with the cooperation of the other members of the Bureau, will arrange for consultations with members of the Council on the draft programme of work and provisional agenda prepared by the Secretary-General and make proposals thereon for consideration by the Council.

The Council will have before it the proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 2011 and 2012 (E/2011/1) prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Council and of the General Assembly.

The Council's attention is drawn to General Assembly resolution 52/12 B, in which the Assembly decided to create a humanitarian affairs segment of the Council. In accordance with Council decision 1999/208, the Council, at its organizational session, may wish to select a theme for the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 2011.

The Council's attention is also drawn to General Assembly resolution 61/16, in which the Assembly decided that the Council should continue to promote global dialogue, inter alia, through strengthening existing arrangements, including a thematic discussion on a theme from economic, social and related fields to be decided by the Council and informed by a report of the Secretary-General.

Pursuant to Council decision 1982/174 on the rationalization of the work of the Council, the Council decided to identify, at its annual organizational session, a subject relating to interregional cooperation, of common interest to all regions, for detailed consideration under the agenda item on regional cooperation, and to request the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to submit their joint recommendations in that regard to the Council at its annual organizational session.

Pursuant to Council decision 2006/206 on adapting the work of the Council, the President of the Council will convene consultations of the Council, on an as-available basis, to adapt its organization of work, agenda and current methods of work in pursuance of paragraphs 155 and 156 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the related provisions of General Assembly resolution 61/16.

In its decision 2008/258, the Council decided that the theme of the annual ministerial review of the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2011 would be "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education".

In its decision 2010/262, the Council decided that the theme of the thematic discussion of the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2011 would be "Current global and national trends and challenges and their impact on education".

In its resolution 2008/29, the Council decided that the coordination segment of its substantive session of 2011 would be devoted to the theme of the 2010 ministerial declaration on implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women.

In its decision 2009/250, the Council, taking note of the note by the Secretary-General (E/2009/78) on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, decided, with reference to article 47, paragraph 1, of the Convention, to initiate the procedures established in paragraph 1 (b) of that article, which states that the parties shall be asked whether they accept the proposed amendment and also asked to submit to the Council any comments on the proposal. The Secretary-General, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicated to the parties to the Convention the text of Council decision 2009/250 in a depositary notification dated 30 July 2009.

The Secretary-General communicated to the Council a note verbale dated 28 August 2009 from the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations, rejecting the proposed amendment (see E/2009/116). The Secretary-General also communicated to the Council a note verbale dated 28 January 2010 from the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations informing the Council of Egypt's withdrawal of its objection to the proposed amendment to the Convention (see E/2010/7). The Secretary-General, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicated to the parties to the Convention the two notes verbales in depositary notifications dated 19 November 2009 and 24 February 2010.

In accordance with article 47 (2) of the Convention, if a proposed amendment circulated under paragraph 1 (b) of the article has not been rejected by any Party within 18 months after it has been circulated, that is on or before 31 January 2011, it shall thereupon enter into force. If, however, the proposed amendment is rejected by any Party, the Economic and Social Council may decide, in the light of comments received from Parties, whether a conference shall be called to consider such amendment.

The Council's attention is drawn to paragraph 56 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 63/303, in which the Assembly requested the Council:

(a) To consider the promotion and enhancement of a coordinated response of the United Nations development system and specialized agencies in the follow-up to and implementation of that outcome document, in order to advance consistency and coherence in support of consensus-building around policies related to the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development;

(b) To make recommendations to the General Assembly, in accordance with the Doha Declaration of 2 December 2008, for a strengthened and more effective and inclusive intergovernmental process to carry out the financing for development follow-up;

(c) Examine the strengthening of institutional arrangements to promote international cooperation in tax matters, including the United Nations Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters;

(d) Review the implementation of the agreements between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions in collaboration with those institutions,

focusing in particular on enhancing collaboration and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as on the opportunities for contributing to advancing their respective mandates;

(e) Consider and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the possible establishment of an ad hoc panel of experts on the world economic and financial crisis and its impact on development. The panel could provide independent technical expertise and analysis, which would contribute to informing international action and political decision-making and fostering constructive dialogues and exchanges among policymakers, academics, institutions and civil society.

In that regard, the Secretariat, in accordance with Council decision 2009/258, submitted to the Council a report of the Secretary-General on the promotion and enhancement of a coordinated response of the United Nations development system and the specialized agencies in the follow-up to and implementation of the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development (E/2009/114); a note by the Secretariat on enhancing collaboration and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions (E/2009/115); and a note by the Secretariat on the possible establishment of an ad hoc panel of experts on the world economic and financial crisis and its impact on development: past terms of reference and any relevant factors or experience of previous ad hoc panels of experts (E/2009/113). A summary has been prepared by the President of the Council of the review of progress achieved in the follow-up to paragraph 56 of the Outcome of the Conference (E/2009/119).

The Council's attention is drawn to General Assembly resolution 64/193, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the need for a strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up and to review progress in the implementation of commitments, identify obstacles, challenges and emerging issues and propose concrete recommendations and actions; and endorsed, in that regard, the recommendations of the Council as contained in its resolution 2009/30.

In its resolution 2010/26, the Council welcomed the new modalities of the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; encouraged the President of the Council, in consultation with Member States, to continue to work with the appropriate representatives of those stakeholders to improve the agenda and the format of the Council's high-level meeting, considering innovative approaches conducive, inter alia, to the high-level participation of those institutions; and welcomed the efforts undertaken to give more prominence to the consideration of the agenda item on financing for development during the annual substantive session of the Council, including the allocation of the item to its coordination segment.

Pursuant to Council resolutions 2009/30 and 2010/26, the President of the Council will convene consultations of the Council and between the Bureau of the Council and appropriate representatives of the governing bodies of the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development regarding the dates, substantive focus and format of the high-level meeting of the Council. The Council may also wish to consider, in the context of the preparations for its substantive session for 2011, the modalities of its consideration of the agenda item on financing for development, as appropriate.

In its decision 2010/264, the Council decided to continue its consideration of the draft resolution on the establishment of an ad hoc panel of experts on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development (E/2010/L.37), with a view to making final recommendations to the General Assembly, in accordance with the mandate of paragraph 56 (e) of the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, during its substantive session of 2011.

In its resolution 2010/28, the Council welcomed the report of its Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti and decided to extend the mandate of that Group until the substantive session of the Council in 2012, with the purpose of closely following and providing advice on Haiti's long-term development strategy to promote post-disaster socio-economic recovery, stability and reconstruction, with particular attention to the need to ensure coherence and sustainability in international support for Haiti, based on the long-term national development priorities, as contained in the Government's Action Plan for the Reconstruction and National Development of Haiti, and stressed the need to avoid overlap and duplication with respect to existing mechanisms. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti to report on its activities in support of the recovery, reconstruction and development of the country, with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Council for consideration at its organizational and substantive sessions of 2011.

In its decision 2010/265, the Council decided to further defer consideration of the first two draft resolutions contained in chapter I, section B, of the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/2010/15/Add.1) to its substantive session of 2011.

In its decision 2010/256, the Council decided to defer its consideration of the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (E/2010/44) on its ninth session until a later stage but before its substantive session of 2011.

Pursuant to Council resolution 2010/33 on the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, the President of the Council will convene a discussion within the Council by spring 2011 on international cooperation in tax matters.

Documentation

Proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 2011 and 2012 (E/2011/1)

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/2010/15/Add.1)

Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (E/2010/44) on its ninth session

Report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its fifth session (E/2009/45)

Oral report by the President of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments

The Council will hold elections to fill vacancies in its subsidiary bodies.

Documentation

Addendum to the provisional agenda of the organizational session for 2011 (E/2011/2/Add.1)[1]

[1] To be issued.

10-70643

Annex

Members of the Economic and Social Council for 2011

	Term expires on 31 December
Argentina	2012
Australia	2013
Bahamas	2012
Bangladesh	2012
Belgium	2012
Cameroon	2013
Canada	2012
Chile	2012
China	2013
Comoros	2012
Côte d'Ivoire	2011
Ecuador	2013
Egypt	2012
Estonia	2011
Finland	2013
France	2011
Gabon	2013
Germany	2011
Ghana	2012
Guatemala	2011
Guinea-Bissau	2011
Hungary	2013
India	2011
Iraq	2012
Italy	2012
Japan	2011
Latvia	2013

	Term expires on 31 December
Malawi	2013
Malta	2011
Mauritius	2011
Mexico	2013
Mongolia	2012
Morocco	2011
Namibia	2011
Nicaragua	2013
Norway	2013
Pakistan	2013
Peru	2011
Philippines	2012
Qatar	2013
Republic of Korea	2013
Russian Federation	2013
Rwanda	2012
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2011
Saudi Arabia	2011
Senegal	2013
Slovakia	2012
Spain	2011
Switzerland	2011
Ukraine	2012
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2013
United States of America	2012
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	2011
Zambia	2012